

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 INR-07 /022 W

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R 091230Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0076

INFO COGARD ACADEMY NEW LONDON

SECDEF

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 3207

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, OEXC, XM, SEDU, MORG

SUBJECT: ADMISSION OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN
NATIONALS TO THE U.S. COAST GUARD ACADEMY

REF: STATE 293616 (020229Z DEC 76)

1. EMBASSY REQUEST CLARIFICATION OF OPPORTUNITIES
FOR ADMISSION OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN NATIONALS
TO THE US COAST GUARD ACADEMY.

2. FOR SEVERAL YEARS IN RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTIONS
RECEIVED AND LONG-STANDING LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR
LIMITED NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS OF CANDIDATES TO
MILITARY SERVICE, COAST GUARD AND MERCHANT MARINE
ACADEMIES FROM THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS, THIS EMBASSY
HAS MADE SUCH OPPORTUNITIES KNOWN TO THE GOVERNMENT
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. AN INVITATION TO NOMINATE
CANDIDATES FOR THE ACADEMY YEAR BEGINNING IN THE
SUMMER OF 1977 IS NOW CURRENT. WHILE THE GOVERNMENT
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO HAS NOT YET CHOSEN TO NOMINATE
ANY CANDIDATES TO US SERVICE ACADEMIES, THESE
OPPORTUNITIES ARE PERIODICALLY UNDER ACTIVE DISCUSSION
AND WE WOULD NOT WISH DECISIONS TO BE MADE ON INCORRECT
INFORMATION.

3. HERETOFORE, ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THIS EMBASSY
REGARDING SUCH COMPETITIVE APPOINTMENTS FROM THE AMERICAN
REPUBLICS HAVE INDICATED THAT THE ACADEMIC COSTS,
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SUBSISTENCE AND STIPENDS WERE TO BE PAID BY THE USG.

4. REFTTEL, WHICH WAS SENT TO POSTS WORLDWIDE AND REFERS TO NEW LEGISLATION REGARDING THE ADMISSION OF FOREIGN NATIONALS TO THE US COAST GUARD ACADEMY, MAKES NO DISTINCTION FOR CANDIDATES FROM LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, BUT STATES THAT THE FOREIGN NOMINEE'S COUNTRY MUST AGREE TO REIMBURSE THE UNITED STATES FOR THE COST OF THE EDUCATION.

5. PLEASE INFORM US WHETHER THIS NEW LEGISLATION REPLACES EARLIER OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICAN REPUBLIC CANDIDATES TO COMPETE FOR PAID EDUCATION AT THE COAST GUARD ACADEMY, OR WHETHER IT IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO LATTER. IF THESE ARE TWO SEPARATE PROGRAMS (ONE LIMITED TO THIS HEMISPHERE AND ONE WORLDWIDE), THERE IS NO DIFFICULTY, BUT IF THE PREVIOUSLY DEFINED OPPORTUNITY IS NO LONGER BEING OFFERED WE WOULD WISH TO INFORM THE GOVERNMENT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PROMPTLY THAT THE INFORMATION WHICH THEY ARE NOW CONSIDERING REGARDING NOMINATION OF ACADEMY CANDIDATES FOR 1977 MUST BE REVISED TO PROVIDE THAT EDUCATION AT THE COAST GUARD ACADEMY WOULD HAVE TO BE FULLY REIMBURSED BY THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GOVERNMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, MILITARY TRAINING, MILITARY SCHOOLS, COAST GUARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PORTO03207
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760455-0786
From: PORT OF SPAIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761258/aaaabxwp.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 293616
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ADMISSION OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN NATIONALS TO THE U.S. COAST GUARD ACADEMY
TAGS: MILI, OEXC, SEDU, MORG, XM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006